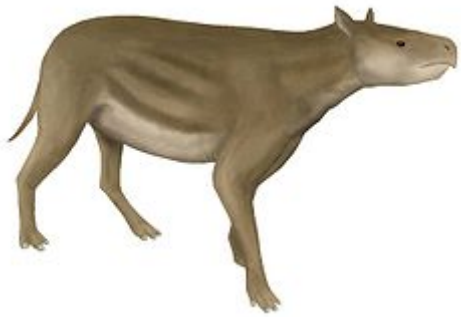
Heptodon

Heptodon is an extinct genus of tapir-type herbivore of the family Helaletidae endemic to North America during the Early Eocene. It lived from 50.3—48.6 mya, existing for approximately 1.7 million years.[1]

Heptodon was about 1 metre (3.3 ft) in length, and closely resembled modern tapirs. The shape of the skull suggests that it probably lacked the characteristic tapir trunk. Instead it probably had a slightly elongated, fleshy upper lip, like its relative *Helaletes*.[2]

Heptodon
Temporal range: Early Eocene

Scientific classification
Kingdom: Animalia
Phylum: Chordata
Class: Mammalia
Order: Perissodactyla
Superfamily: Tapiroidea
Family: †Helaletidae
Genus: †***Heptodon*** Cope 1882
Species
▪ †*H. calciculus* Cope 1880 ▪ †*H. minimus* Qi 1987 ▪ †*H. niushanensis* Chow & Li 1965 ▪ †*H. posticus* Cope 1882

References

1. *Heptodon* at fossilworks (http://fossilworks.org/bridge.pl?action=taxonInfo&taxon_no=43095)
2. Palmer, D., ed. (1999). *The Marshall Illustrated Encyclopedia of Dinosaurs and Prehistoric Animals*. London: Marshall Editions. p. 261. ISBN 1-84028-152-9.

See also

- Fossil Butte National Monument

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